

## Proclamation

## RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 2020 AS NAVAJO NATION ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH

**WHEREAS**, the Diné family, serving as the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem and support, is the very foundation of our Nation; and

WHEREAS, each year, there are hundreds of Navajo children who receive foster care services while awaiting to be adopted. Many older youths will "age-out" of the foster care system before they are able to find a forever home; and

**WHEREAS,** there is a demonstrated need to increase awareness regarding the number of Navajo children and teens in need of a permanent home on the Navajo Nation, the greater parts of Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, and other parts of the country; and

**WHEREAS,** children and youth in foster care deserve every happiness and joy experienced by those children not in foster care- unconditional love, support, stability, and trust. Children grow to become their best selves when they are surrounded by supportive families; and

**WHEREAS**, families who open their homes and hearts to children make meaningful and lasting differences in the lives of some of the most vulnerable young people in our communities; and

**WHEREAS,** we recognize, and wholeheartedly embrace, the spirit that every child matters. We celebrate the parent(s) who have invited a child-in-need into their hearts and into their homes. We express our profound appreciation for all who make adoption possible including those administrative professionals, case workers, and countless others.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JONATHAN NEZ,** President of the Navajo Nation, and **I, MYRON LIZER,** Vice President of the Navajo Nation, do hereby proclaim November 2020 is "NAVAJO NATION ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH" and encourage the citizens of the Navajo Nation to observe this month with appropriate awareness activities and to "go the extra mile" by assisting adoptive families, and Diné children in need of a permanent and caring family.

PROCLAIMED THIS 1ST DAY OF NOVEMBER 2020

Jonathan Nez, President
THE NAVAJO NATION

Myron Lizer, *Vice President* **THE NAVAJO NATION**